UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.7/1991/16
12 April 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS
Thirty-fourth session
Vienna, 30 January-8 February 1991
Item 10 of the provisional agenda*

# PROGRAMME OF FUTURE WORK AND PRIORITIES

## Note by the Secretary-General**

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*E/CN.7/1991/1/Rev.1.

**This document has not been edited.

V.91-23224 7557T

# I. PROGRAMME QUESTIONS

## A. Programme performance and implementation

1. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 39/238, the Commission will have before it relevant excerpts from the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1988-1989 (A/45/218 and Add.1). 1/

## B. Proposed programme of work for the biennium 1992-1993

2. At its forty-fifth session, the General Assembly adopted the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 and reaffirmed that the plan was the principal policy directive of the United Nations and would serve as a framework for the formulation of the biennial programme budgets (resolution 45/253).

3. In recommending approval of programme 28 (International Drug Control) 2/ of the proposed medium-term plan, the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination indicated that it was on the understanding that the programme was provisional and that it would be revised to reflect all recent mandates contained in the Global Programme of Action against Illicit Production, Supply, Demand, Trafficking and Distribution of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances adopted by the General Assembly at its seventeenth special session. In addition, it will also be necessary to revise the medium-term plan to take into account the integration of the functions of the Division of Narcotic Drugs, the secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board and the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control in a new single new Programme (the United Nations International Drug Control Programme) 3/. In accordance with the relevant regulations and rules governing programme planning 4/, the proposed revisions will be before the Commission at its next session in 1992.

4. In the meantime, the proposed work programme contained in addendum 1 is submitted in accordance with the relevant regulations and rules governing programme planning 5/. It is based on the medium-term plan for the period 1992/1997 and it is tentative, since it has not yet been reviewed by the Programme Planning and Budgeting Board and is subject to change in the light of the Board's central review and the Secretary-General's decisions on the proposed programme budget as a whole. The Secretary-General's proposed programme budget will be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session for consideration and approval.

5. The Commission should be aware that while the suggestions or recommendations on the substance of the work programme made by the intergovernmental body concerned may be taken into account in the course of the preparation and review of the programme budget, the Secretary-General cannot commit himself to the adoption of such suggestions or recommendations before the proposed programme budget of the United Nations is completed. Furthermore, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 43/214 and 45/255 the programme budget outline for the biennium 1992-1993 has already been established and the Assembly has already taken a decision on the total preliminary estimates for that biennium. Thus, within the context of priorities identified in the introduction to the medium-term

plan, international drug control (together with peace-making, Africa and the environment and development) is one of the overall priorities of the United Nations 6/. The draft programme of work for the biennium 1992-1993 submitted to the Commission has been prepared in this context.

6. The format of the proposed programme of work is in line with the new framework set out in the medium-term plan, but in line with rule 104.1 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations it follows the structure reflected in General Assembly resolution 45/179 and includes also activities mandated by the Global Programme of Action. Another new feature of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 is the elimination of programme element levels within subprogrammes. Accordingly, outputs are now grouped in programmes and subprogrammes. The Commission may note that under the new procedure established for priority-setting, priorities for the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 will be set at the output/services level rather than at the programme element level. High and low priority outputs must approximate 10-20 per cent of the resources requested for each programme. In addition to ensuring that there is no disproportion in resources devoted to high and low priority outputs, the instructions also provide that no designation of low priority should be given to any output within those subprogrammes designated as high priority in the medium-term plan. In the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, subprogramme 1 (treaty implementation) of the International Drug Control Programme is designated highest priority 7/. Accordingly, all low priority outputs in the programme must be selected from the other subprogrammes which were not designated high priority. However, this should be done without prejudice to the importance of the other components of the programme, in order to achieve a balanced approach to international drug control.

7. Bearing in mind the information provided above, the Commission may wish to provide its comments to the Secretary-General on the proposed work programme and proposed priorities of the International Drug Control Programme for the biennium 1992-1993.

## II. PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE NEXT SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

### A. Discussion

8. At its twenty-ninth session in 1981, the Commission discussed how best to rationalize its consideration of various topics 8/. The provisional agendas for the thirtieth through the thirty-fourth sessions were formulated on the basis of that discussion, with adjustments being made to accommodate new reporting mechanisms, items of special interest to the Commission or action to be taken following specific requests from the General Assembly. At its thirty-first session in 1985, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs modified those reporting mechanisms to improve its utilization of conference services and the process by which it received reports 9/. Since 1985, the Commission's work has been notably expanded by additional tasks such as the preparations for the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (1986, 1987), the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1985, 1986, 1987, 1988) and the 17th Special session of the General Assembly (1990).

9. At its sixth special session in 1980, 10/ the Commission suggested that special sessions should be reserved exclusively for special topics and that considerable time could be saved in the discussion of the agenda by the joint examination of the items on drug abuse and illicit traffic and by the occasional limitation of the discussion on scientific research.

10. Pursuant to operative paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 45/179 on the enhancement of the United Nations structure for drug abuse control, the Commission is also required to consider, at the current session, " ways and means of improving its functioning as a policy-making body and to report its recommendations to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1991"... In preparation for this discussion, a series of five informal consultations were held with the Permanent Missions at Vienna in December 1990 and in January and April 1991. The Secretariat has endeavoured to reflect the deliberations of these five informal consultations in a Conference room paper 11/. During these informal consultations, it was widely recognized that regular sessions of the Commission should be held on an annual basis. Suggestions were also made that the agenda of future sessions of the Commission should follow the organization of the Global Programme of Action and that priority themes be established. It was also considered that the establishment of the new United Nations International Drug Control Programme would have an impact on the future structure of the agenda and the working methods of the Commission. This would also affect the Commission's decisions concerning the organizational structure of future meetings and the mandates of its subordinate bodies.

11. Recalling the request of the Assembly in its resolution 45/179 that the Commission consider at its thirty-fourth session ways and means of improving its functioning as a policy-making body, the Council, in its decision 1991/201, adopted at its organizational session for 1991, requested the Commission to establish an ad hoc Committee of the Whole at its thirty-fourth session in order to enable it to consider that important question in detail.

12. The Commission will also wish to bear in mind that at its organizational session for 1990, the Council, in decision 1990/205, established on a provisional basis a multi-year work programme for the in-depth consideration of major policy themes during the period 1992-1994. The list of themes (which would be reviewed annually and adjusted on a roll-over basis as necessary) includes an in-depth consideration of "International co-operation against illicit production, supply, demand, trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs" in 1994. Thus, while the Council would continue to consider annually the question of narcotic drugs, in view of the more in-depth study to be carried out in 1994, advance preparation would be required from the Commission, as of 1993.

13. Furthermore, in the context of the rationalization of the work of its Third Committee, the General Assembly, in resolution 45/175, proposed a new structure for the agenda of the Third Committee. While the Assembly would consider the item entitled "Narcotic Drugs" annually, it would review two topics annually and one topic biennially. The two topics selected for annual review are:

(a) Implementation of the Global Programme of Action against Illicit Production, Supply, Demand, Trafficking and Distribution of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances; and

(b) International action to combat drug abuse and illicit trafficking.

The following topic would be considered on a biennial basis, as of 1992:

(a) Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

As will be recalled, the General Assembly, in paragraph 97 of the Global Programme of Action requested the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the United Nations drug control bodies "to continuously monitor the progress on the implementation of the Global Programme of Action, and the Secretary-General [to] report annually to the General Assembly on all activities relating to the Global Programme of Action and the efforts of Governments".

14. Accordingly, the Commission may wish to consider, at the current session, how best to fulfil this request. This will be particularly necessary with respect to the assessment of efforts by Governments (will, for instance, the Commission wish that a questionnaire be sent in advance by the Secretariat and an analysis of the responses be prepared before the Commission's session, or will the Commission decide rather that statements by Governments' representatives would suffice?). Insofar as implementation by the United Nations and the rest of the UN System is concerned, the General Assembly in its resolution 44/141 requested the executive heads of the United Nations bodies to report annually to the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on progress in implementing the System-Wide Action Plan for drug abuse control so that the Committee include the same information in its report, so as to enable the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Economic and Social Council to consider it within their respective mandates and to make appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly. In resolution 45/179, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to review the System-Wide Action Plan in light of the restructuring of the International Drug Control Programme. A progress report would be made annually to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

## B. Provisional agenda

15. The Council, in resolution 1989/114 on further measures for the implementation of its resolution 1988/77 on the revitalization of the Economic and Social Council, urged its subsidiary bodies to implement fully Council resolution 1979/41 in submitting to the Council, for consideration, their provisional agendas together with the lists of requested documentation, with a view to ensuring greater consistency in requests for documentation and improving reporting procedures. In this connection it will be recalled that the Council has urged all of its subsidiary bodies to exercise the utmost restraint in making requests of the Secretary-General for new reports and studies and to implement fully the decisions of the Council and the General Assembly with respect to the control and limitation of documentation (see Council resolutions 1981/83 and 1982/50).

16. In decision 1983/163, the Council requested the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of intergovernmental and expert bodies, before decisions were adopted, any request for documentation that exceeded the ability of the Secretariat to prepare and process on time and within its approved resources and to draw the attention of intergovernmental bodies to areas where duplication of documentation was likely to occur and/or where opportunities for integrating or consolidating documents that dealt with related or similar themes might exist, with a view to rationalizing documentation.

17. Taking into account all the above considerations and in accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure, the Secretariat suggests to the Commission the following draft provisional agenda for its next session, together with an indication of the documents to be submitted for its consideration. Should the Council authorize the annualization of the Commission's sessions, that session would be the 35th.

1. Election of Officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

   Documentation

   Provisional agenda
   Annotated provisional agenda

3. Treaty implementation.

   (a) Changes in the scope of control-consideration of notifications to the Secretary-General from Governments, the World Health Organization and from the International Narcotics Control Board;

   Documentation

   Report of the Executive Director

   (b) International Narcotics Control Board;

   Documentation

   Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1991 (Relevant part)

   (c) Other urgent action required under the international drug control conventions.

   Documentation

   Note by the Secretariat (as necessary).

4. Monitoring of the progress of the implementation of the Global Programme of Action against Illicit Production, Supply, Demand, Trafficking and Distribution of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

   (a) Implementation by Governments;

   (b) Implementation by the United Nations System (including the implementation of the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control).

   Documentation

   Note by the Executive Director on the efforts of Governments to implement the Global Programme of Action

   Progress report by the Executive Director on the implementation of the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control

5. World situation with respect to drug abuse and illicit trafficking including counter-measures.

Documentation

Reports by the Executive Director on the situation and trends in drug abuse and the illicit traffic

Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1991(Part of)

Report of the Executive Director on operational activities

Reports of the regional HONLEAS and of the Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East

Reports of inter- and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

6. Priority topics.

(a) Review of the subsidiary machinery of the Commission;

(b) Rationalization of the work of the Commission.

Documentation

Notes by the Executive Director

7. Programme of work and priorities.

Documentation

Note by the Executive Director

8. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its ... session.

## Notes

1/ The excerpts are to be found in Annex 1.

2/ See document A/45/6 (Prog.28).

3/ Resolution 45/179.

4/ Regulations 3.11, 3.12 and 4.3 of ST/SGB/PPBME Rules/1 (1987), and new regulation 3.1.2 (c), contained in the report of CPC (A/42/16, part two, para.74) and approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 42/215, sect.I, para.1 and resolution 45/253, para. 11.

5/ ST/SGB/PPBME/Rules/1 (1987).

6/ See Report of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 1992-1993, document A/45/369, paragraphs 13 and 14.

7/ During the discussion by the Committee for Programme and Coordination of Programme 28, some delegations expressed the view that subprogrammes 4 (Demand reduction, co-ordination and information) and 5 (Maintaining and improving the effectiveness of the international drug control system) should have been designated high priority. - See A/45/16 (Part I), paragraph 253. In addition, the International Narcotics Control Board is of the view that the sub-programmes it is responsible for (sub-programmes 5 to 8) do not lend themselves to priority setting.

8/ See report, twenty-ninth session (E/1981/24 - E/CN.7/668), paragraphs 6 and 278-282. An excerpt from paragraph 282, containing the guidelines adopted by the Commission is reproduced in Annex II.

9/ See report, thirty-first session (E/1985/23 - E/CN.7/1985/22), paragraphs 227-231. These paragraphs are reproduced in Annex II.

10/ See report on the sixth session (E/1980/14 - E/CN.7/654), paragraph 198.

11/ See E/CN.7/1991/CRP/...

ANNEX I

EXCERPTS FROM RELEVANT REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE AND IMPLEMENTATION

Summary of programme performance for the biennium 1988-1989 by main category of outputs and major programmes of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 *

| Major programme of the medium-term plan | Programmed (1) | Implemented (2) | Departures from programmed commitments: Reformulated (3) | Postponed (4) | Terminated (5) | Additional outputs by: Legislation (6) | Secretariat (7) | Percentage a/: A (8) | B (9) | C (10) | D (11) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7. International drug control | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Servicing meetings | 34 | 30 | - | 3 | 1 | 3 | - | 88 | 88 | 89 | 89 |
| Reports | 32 | 30 | - | 2 | - | 1 | - | 93 | 93 | 93 | 93 |
| Publications | 101 | 68 | 2 | 21 | 10 | - | 1 | 67 | 69 | 69 | 70 |
| Public information | 11 | 10 | - | 1 | - | - | - | 90 | 90 | 90 | 90 |
| Others | 98 | 86 | - | 12 | - | - | 1 | 87 | 87 | 87 | 88 |
| Total | 276 | 224 | 2 | 39 | 11 | 4 | 2 | 81 | 81 | 82 | 82 |

a/ The four percentages represent the following:

A: outputs implemented as programmed, in percentage of outputs programmed;

B: outputs implemented as programmed plus reformulations, in percentage of outputs programmed;

C: outputs implemented as programmed plus reformulations plus outputs added by legislation, in percentage of outputs programmed and those added by legislation;

D: outputs implemented as programmed plus reformulations plus all additional outputs, in percentage of outputs programmed and those added by legislation.

* PROGRAMME PLANNING: Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1988-1989, Report of the Secretary-General (A/45/218), p. 12.

## Summary of programme performance for the biennium 1988-1989 by programme budget section and main category of outputs *

| | Section | Programmed (1) | Implemented (2) | Departures from programmed commitments: Reformulated (3) | Postponed (4) | Terminated (5) | Additional outputs by: Legislation (6) | Secretariat (7) | Percentages a/: A (8) | B (9) | C (10) | D (11) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 20B. | Division of Narcotic Drugs | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Servicing meetings | 26 | 22 | - | 3 | 1 | 3 | - | 84 | 84 | 86 | 86 |
| | Reports | 22 | 20 | - | 2 | - | 1 | - | 90 | 90 | 91 | 91 |
| | Publications | 49 | 26 | - | 13 | 10 | - | 1 | 53 | 53 | 53 | 55 |
| | Public information | 11 | 10 | - | 1 | - | - | - | 90 | 90 | 90 | 90 |
| | Others | 61 | 50 | - | 11 | - | - | 1 | 81 | 81 | 81 | 83 |
| | Total | 169 | 128 | - | 30 | 11 | 4 | 2 | 75 | 75 | 76 | 77 |
| 20C. | International Narcotics Control Board | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Servicing meetings | 8 | 8 | - | - | - | - | - | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| | Reports | 10 | 10 | - | - | - | - | - | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| | Publications | 52 | 42 | 2 | 8 | - | - | - | 80 | 84 | 84 | 84 |
| | Others | 37 | 36 | - | 1 | - | - | - | 97 | 97 | 97 | 97 |
| | Total | 107 | 96 | 2 | 9 | - | - | - | 89 | 91 | 91 | 91 |

a/ The four percentages represent the following:

A: outputs implemented as programmed, in percentage of outputs programmed;

B: outputs implemented as programmed plus reformulations, in percentage of outputs programmed;

C: outputs implemented as programmed plus reformulations plus outputs added by legislation, in percentage of outputs programmed and those added by legislation;

D: outputs implemented as programmed plus reformulations plus all additional outputs, in percentage of outputs programmed and those added by legislation.

* PROGRAMME PLANNING: Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1988-1989, Report of the Secretary-General (A/45/218), p. 22.

## Summary of programme performance by highest priority designation by programme budget section and main category of outputs *

| | Section | Programmed (1) | Implemented (2) | Departures from programmed commitments: Reformulated (3) | Postponed (4) | Terminated (5) | Additional by legislation (6) | Percentage a/: A | B | C |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 20B. | Division of Narcotic Drugs | 13 | 13 | - | - | - | - | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 20C. | International Narcotics Control Board | 6 | 6 | - | - | - | - | 100 | 100 | 100 |

a/ The three percentages represent the following:

A: outputs implemented as programmed, in percentage of outputs programmed;

B: outputs implemented as programmed plus reformulations, in percentage of outputs programmed;

C: outputs implemented as programmed plus reformulations plus outputs added by legislation, in percentage of outputs programmed and those added by legislation.

* PROGRAMME PLANNING: Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1988-1989, Report of the Secretary-General (A/45/218), p. 25.

Summary of programme performance by lowest priority designation by programme budget section and main category of outputs *

| Section | | Programmed (1) | Implemented (2) | Departures from programmed commitments: Reformulated (3) | Postponed (4) | Terminated (5) | Additional by legislation (6) | Percentage a/: A | B | C |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 20B. | Division of Narcotic Drugs | 10 | 9 | - | 1 | - | - | 90 | 90 | 90 |
| 20C. | International Narcotics Control Board | 21 | 16 | - | 5 | - | - | 76 | 76 | 76 |

a/ The three percentages represent the following:

A: outputs implemented as programmed, in percentage of outputs programmed;

B: outputs implemented as programmed plus reformulations, in percentage of outputs programmed;

C: outputs implemented as programmed plus reformulations plus outputs added by legislation, in percentage of outputs programmed and those added by legislation.

* PROGRAMME PLANNING: Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1988-1989, Report of the Secretary-General (A/45/218), p. 28.

## Status of outputs carried over from previous bienniums by programme budget section and main category of outputs *

| Section and main category of activity | Outputs carried over from 1984-1985 | Outputs carried over from 1986-1987 | Implemented | Terminated | Further postponed |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 208. Division of Narcotic Drugs | | | | | |
| Reports | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| Publications | - | 8 | - | - | 8 |
| Total | - | 9 | - | - | 9 |

* PROGRAMME PLANNING: Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1988-1989, Report of the Secretary-General (A/45/218), p. 33.

Actual programme performance in relation to the commitment in the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989 (A/42/6 and Add.1) a/ *

(Expressed in number of outputs)

| Programme of activity | Programmed (1) | Implemented (2) | Departures from programmed commitments: Reformulated (3) | Postponed (4) | Terminated (5) | Additional outputs by: Legislation (6) | Secretariat (7) | Percentage: A (8) | B (9) | C (10) | D (11) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Division of Narcotic Drugs | 169 | 128 | - | 30 | 11 | 4 | 2 | 75 | 75 | 76 | 77 |

a/ For details on the composition by main category of output, see A/45/218, annex II.

* PROGRAMME PLANNING: Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1988-1989, Report of the Secretary-General, Addendum, (A/45/218/Add.1), p. 78 and 79.

20B.1 During the biennium 1988-1989, the vacancy rate for posts in the Professional category was of the same order as in the previous biennium, averaging 18 per cent. The extrabudgetary resources made available in support of substantive activities were estimated at approximately $4.2 million in 1988-1989.

20B.2 The overall implementation rate was 75 per cent in 1988-1989 as compared to 88 per cent in the previous biennium. In this connection, it should be noted that the total number of outputs programmed decreased from 319 outputs in 1986-1987 to 169 in the biennium 1988-1989. This decline is attributed to the change introduced in the definition of outputs. Thus, activities consisting of processing 40 legal notifications were considered one annual programme. Responses to an estimated 70 government requests annually for advice on the development of mechanisms for drug demand prevention were also considered as one annual programme.

20B.3 The departures from programmed commitments were essentially technical publications and the review of requests for possible financing from the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control. Fellowships, study tours and training on techniques of reduction of illicit supply and traffic of drugs were also among the activities postponed. However, all outputs terminated consisted of technical publications. As for outputs designated high priority, they were fully implemented during the biennium.

20B.4 Particulars of the activities undertaken by the Division of Narcotic Drugs are given below.

20B.5 The major achievements during the biennium were the preparation of the 1988 United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, which led to the successful adoption of that major Convention by consensus, and the holding of the Second Interregional Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (1989), which adopted major policy directives in drug control. In addition to the ongoing work, which focused on all aspects relating to the implementation of treaties, considerable input was provided to the system-wide plan of action requested by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, and reiterated by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session. Worth noting also are the advice and assistance extended to 38 countries during the biennium on the application of the drug control treaty system. In addition, legal advice was provided to 19 countries in the area of formulation of national legislation on drug controls. Assistance on steps to be taken to become parties to the conventions was also provided to 28 countries. Finally, over 900 field drug identification kits and 165 scientific and technical information materials were distributed to law enforcement authorities.

20B.6 As regards activities relating to Africa, the extrabudgetary projects executed by the Division contain technical assistance elements related to the increasing problems of drug abuse and illicit trafficking in Africa. Thus, the Division has organized a meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA) in Africa in 1988 and was attended by 26 States of the region. In addition, as at 1987, the training programme of the Division's laboratory was heavily oriented towards Africa, inter alia, to provide skilled staff for the use of equipment to be delivered by a special three-year extrabudgetary projects (1988-1990), financed by an earmarked contribution of approximately $1.3 million of a member State through the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control. Furthermore, during the biennium 1988-1989, equipment was delivered to 11 African countries and approximately $500,000 was spent on training/fellowships for chemists from 28 African countries.

## ANNEX II

### (a) Guidelines adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its twenty-ninth session on the improvement of its working methods[1/]

..." (a) Reports from the Commission's subsidiary bodies, the Division, specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations should be submitted at regular sessions on a biennial basis. However, recommendations from subsidiary bodies concerning the illicit traffic might be submitted whenever required;

(b) Reports should not exceed six pages from specialized agencies, three pages from intergovernmental organizations and one and a half pages from non-governmental organizations. The secretariat was to edit reports that did not comply with those directives;

(c) A complete report from UNFDAC should be submitted biennially but was not limited in length. At any special session, a short interim report would be considered, possibly in conjunction with an agenda item on the review and implementation of the programme of strategy and policies;

(d) Under the international treaties, INCB must submit a report to the Council each year. It was essential that the Commission discuss and comment on that report;

(e) Only urgent matters of treaty implementation, such as decisions on scheduling or rescheduling, should be on the agenda of a special session. The full report on treaty implementation would only be submitted at regular sessions;

(f) The review of trends in drug abuse and illicit traffic should be presented in a full report with all statistics at all regular sessions. At special sessions a short report should be available as a background document, but not for discussion;

(g) Resolutions and decisions, especially those addressed to the Council for action, should be limited to the most urgent and important matters so as to avoid unnecessary proliferation of such texts. Whenever possible, an instruction to the secretariat should simply be given in the body of the report rather than in resolutions or decisions."

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1/ See report, twenty-ninth session (E1981/24 - E/CN.7/668), paragraph 282.

**(b) Guidelines adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its thirty-first session on the improvement of its working methods[2/]**

..." 227. In discussing the organization of its future work, the Commission considered ways of improving its utilization of conference servicing resources and the process by which it received reports from UNFDAC, the specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations. The Commission had last examined the matter at its twenty-ninth session, in 1981.

228. The full report of UNFDAC should continue to be biennially at the Commission's regular sessions. In future, however, it should focus primarily on the biennium under review and limit historical data to whatever was necessary to full understanding of the Fund's current activities. At any special session of the Commission, a concise interim report on the preceding year's activities could be submitted.

229. Reports from specialized agencies, summarizing their activities in the preceding year, were now being submitted annually to the General Assembly under the provisions of General Assembly resolution 34/177. In order to comply with regulations concerning the limitation of documentation, the Commission would in future have available to it the report submitted to the General Assembly pursuant to resolution 34/177. The representative of any specialized agency could update the data contained in the report through a statement at the Commission's session. The secretariat would also circulate any updated reports submitted by specialized agencies as conference room papers in the languages in which the specialized agency made them available.

230. The secretariat should continue to invite concise reports from intergovernmental organizations active in the field of international drug control and reproduce them as a comprehensive official Commission document; as agreed at the Commission's twenty-ninth session, however, any such report exceeding three pages would be edited by the secretariat to bring it within that maximum length.

231. The Commission decided that a document should no longer be prepared on the basis of reports received from non-governmental organizations. Those organizations could submit statements for circulation, in accordance with the provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) on consultative arrangements."

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2/ See report, thirty-first session (E/1985/23 - E/CN.7/1985/22), paragraphs 227-231.